

FORM B - BUILDING

Date (month / year): June 2018

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL
COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Photograph



Locus Map



Recorded by: Lara Kritzer, JM Goldson
community preservation + planning

Organization: Hanson Historical Commission

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form
Number

40-0-29-0

Hanover

HNS.233

Town/City: Hanson

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Address: 464 Main Street

Historic Name: Asa C. and Lydia D. Ford House

Uses: Present: Single-Family Dwelling

Original: Single-Family Dwelling

Date of Construction: ca. 1845

Source: White's History, Plan No. 4, Page 66

Style/Form: No Style

Architect/Builder: Samuel Dexter Ramsdell

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Parged

Wall/Trim: Wood Shingle/Wood

Roof: Metal

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Garage and two sheds

Major Alterations (with dates): Shed roof dormer (early 20th century), one story addition to north facade, and replacement windows

Condition: Good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: .54 Acres

Setting: Located on one of Hanson's main thoroughfares in a residential area made up of surviving nineteenth and early twentieth century homes located between small commercial centers.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The one-and-a-half story Cape style house has gable roof covered in standing seam metal roofing with a tall, corbeled brick chimney at the center of the roof ridge. The house sits with its gable-end facing south towards the street and its front entrance facing east on an open lot surrounded by mature trees. A long, cross-gable roofed one-story addition extends across the north façade of the building and beyond the house on either side, giving it a T-shaped footprint. The house has wood shingle siding with wood trim and two-over-two double hung vinyl replacement windows. The roof of the house overhangs the gable facades with wood trimmed eaves and soffits that project out over the wide cornice boards and corner boards below. While the east and west facades of the main house are painted, the rest of the house is not. The roof ends flush with the gable-end facades, where a narrow band of wood trim topped with metal flashing outlines the pediment, widening at the corners into short box style returns. The wood frames of the windows are narrow wood boards with no additional detailing and slightly projecting sills. The windows sit well below the cornice at the center of the façades, giving the house a tall and narrow appearance.

The house faces east towards the unpaved driveway and has a symmetrical front facade with a double hung window to either side of the center entrance. Like the window frames, the door frame is simple and narrow with no additional detailing surrounding the solid wood door at its center. The door opens onto a short granite landing leading into the yard. A bulkhead is located in the corner of the house to the right. On the roof above, a long, narrow shed dormer runs the length of the east façade beginning at the roof ridge and extending to just short of the east façade. Three short double hung windows are located on its east façade. The south gable-end faces the street and is unusually narrow. Two double hung windows are located on each floor and the upper corners of the gable-end windows extend into the trim detail surrounding the pediment. The west façade is similar in design to the east façade, with a window on each end of the first floor and a long shed dormer across the west roof slope that has two double hung windows.

The addition to the north façade has a metal saltbox-style roof that is short on the south roof slope but longer and shallower on its north slope. The peak of the roof sits just below and behind the eaves of the original house. To the west of the house, a single window is located on the addition's south façade and a pair of windows and a single window are visible on its west façade. To the east, a pair of nine pane awning windows and a short double hung window are located on the south façade. On the addition's east façade, a large picture window is located to the left of an open, integral porch set into the northeast corner.

A one-car, gable-end garage with wood shingle siding and a paneled overhead wood door at its center is located to the northeast of the house. A long, low, shed roofed addition extends from the garage's west façade to behind the house. The south façade of the addition has a large eight-over-eight double hung window with wood shutters and a vertical wood board door with a four-pane window in its center. Two prefabricated metal shed are located to the northwest of the house at the rear of the property. The unpaved driveway extends past the east façade of the house to the garage, with a large parking area to the east along the property line. The open grass lawn has a hedge along the street and bushes surround the corners of the house.

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HISTORICAL NARRATIVE:

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

According to White's History of Hanson, 464 Main Street was built by Dexter Ramsdell in 1845. This is likely Samuel Dexter Ramsdell (1818-1901), a housewright on the 1870 U.S. Census. The son of Samuel and Rebecca (Thompson) Ramsdell, Samuel was first married to Sarah Bartlett Ford in 1844, and after her death, to Sarah's younger sister, Sylvia Howland Ford in 1852. The home was built for his brother-in-law, Asa Chandler Ford (1820-1904)¹ following his marriage to Lydia Davis Everson (1826-1851), the daughter of Sylvanus and Lydia (Bearce) Everson. They married on March 31, 1844 and 464 Main Street was built on a neighboring parcel to Lydia's parents home.² After Lydia's death in 1851, the 1860 U.S. Census shows that Asa remarried and moved to California to work as a hotel keeper.³ As of the 1856 Walling Map, the home was in the hands of Calvin Everson (1820-1908), shown as C. Everson, an unmarried shoemaker who was Lydia Everson's eldest brother.

Asa is presumed to have sold or transferred the property to his uncle on his mother's side, John Bartlett Chandler (1811-1894), who is listed as owning the property in 1869.⁴ By the 1879 Walker Atlas, the house was owned by Charles W. Bourne (1832-1913), a farm laborer and shoe maker (listed as C.W. Bourne on the Atlas). Charles and his wife, Harriet (nee Beal) (1837-1880), lived there with their children. In 1896, the home passed to their son Merton G. Bourne (1868-1952).⁵ The 1903 Richards Map shows him as the owner and in 1909, Merton married Julia Mitchell (1884-1985). According to the 1920 census, Merton worked as a cutter in a shoe factory.

After Merton and Julia Bourne sold the home in 1923 to George V. Scott, the property changed hands several times in a short period of time. A year later, the home was sold to Robert and Harriett S. Hall and again, a year later, to James and Elsie Converse who lived in the home for a decade.⁶ James worked as a treasurer at the hospital. In 1935, James and Elsie Converse sold the home to another couple, Bradford H. and Helen Peirce.⁷ Listed as a physician on the 1930 U.S. Census, Bradford H. Pierce was the head doctor of the Plymouth County Hospital.⁸ His wife, Helen, died soon after they moved to Hanson in June 1936.

Bradford remained in the home until 1946, when he sold the home to George V. Terry Jr. and Katherine Terry.⁹ In 1948, they sold the home to John F. and Stella Harriot.¹⁰ In 1990, John F. Harriot sold the house to his sons, Peter, John and David Harriott, who sold it later that year to Paul Barber and Mary Reid.¹¹

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts State Census, 1855 and 1865. Located in Local History Room, Hanson Public Library and www.ancestry.com

¹ <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/129251194>

² For more on this parcel, see 438 Main Street.

³ Both Lydia Ford and her sister-in-law, Sarah Bartlett Ramsdell, died within months of each other. Both dying from consumption.

⁴ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 349, Page 232-233

⁵ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 726, Page 250

⁶ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1469, Page 231; Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1531, Page 450-451

⁷ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1699, Page 77

⁸ <https://usgenwebhansonma.wordpress.com/cemeteries/miscellaneous/>

⁹ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1942, Page 20

¹⁰ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 2020, Page 461

¹¹ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 9603, Page 239; Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 10056 Page 34

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